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NATIONAL FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE BOARD

NFIB-M-15  
28 January 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR THE NATIONAL FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE BOARD

FROM : Walter Elder  
Executive Secretary

SUBJECT : Draft Minutes of the 28 January NFIB Meeting

1. The attached draft minutes of the 28 January National Foreign Intelligence Board meeting are submitted herewith for NFIB consideration.

NFIB ACTION REQUESTED

2. Board members are requested to advise the Secretariat by close of business 14 February 1977 of their concurrence on the attached minutes.

Walter Elder

Attachment:  
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**NATIONAL FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE BOARD**

NFIB-M-15  
28 January 1977

Minutes of  
Fifteenth Meeting  
National Foreign Intelligence Board  
CIA Headquarters Building  
DCI Conference Room (7D64)  
on Friday, 28 January 1977, at 1000 hours

Acting Director of Central Intelligence  
Mr. E. H. Knoche  
Presiding

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Deputy to the DCI for the  
Intelligence Community  
Dr. Sayre Stevens, Acting CIA Member  
Mr. Harold Saunders, Director of Intelligence and  
Research, Department of State  
Vice Admiral Bobby R. Inman, USN, Acting for Director,  
Defense Intelligence Agency  
Rear Admiral Eugene Ince, USN, Acting for Director,  
National Security Agency  
Mr. Foster Collins, Acting for Department of the Treasury  
Representative to NFIB  
Dr. Julio Torres, Acting for Energy Research and  
Development Administration Representative to NFIB  
Mr. Thomas Leavitt, Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Representative to NFIB

**SERVICE OBSERVERS PRESENT**

Brigadier General John A. Smith, USA, Acting for Assistant  
Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Army  
Rear Admiral Donald P. Harvey, USN, Director of Naval  
Intelligence, Department of the Navy  
Major General Eugene Tighe, USAF, Assistant Chief of  
Staff, Intelligence, United States Air Force

\*Attended part of meeting.

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1. In restricted session, the Acting DCI described contacts with the new administration as revealing an interested and involved audience as far as intelligence activities are concerned. He noted a requirement for a briefing on Soviet reconnaissance activities and proposed [ ] of DIA to present the briefing.

2. NIAM 40/11-1-77, "Regional Perceptions of Soviet Activities in the Pacific"

The Acting Chairman, with the concurrence of the NFIB approved NIAM 40/11-1-77, subject to agreed changes. [ ]

[ ]

During discussion of the estimate, it was determined that the issue of Soviet intentions towards interdicting sea lines of communication needs additional study. The Board agreed that, as a first step, DIA should convene a working group to review the evidence from the Soviet naval exercise OKEAN-75 that relates to this problem as well as any other issues which may be subject to a difference in interpretation.

3. SNIE 72,1-1-77, "Rhodesia--Looking Ahead"  
(Draft for NFIB dated 21 January 1977)

The Acting Chairman, with the concurrence of the NFIB, approved the subject estimate [ ]

[ ]

In response to the DIA member's request that the Intelligence Community needed to take a comprehensive estimative look at the whole of South Africa, the Acting Chairman directed the D/DCI/NI to consult with the NSC Staff on developing the terms of reference to such an estimate.

4. Follow-up on NIE 11-4-77, "Soviet Strategic Objectives"  
(D/DCI/NI memo for NFIB, 12 January 1977)

The D/DCI/NI informed the Board that he would be talking with the NSC Staff and his Production Steering Group on the structure of future Soviet military estimates. He noted a particular desire to avoid having NIE 11-3/8 and NIE 11-4

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cover the same ground. He expressed his hope that the burden of producing NIE 11-3/8 could be reduced and that this question would be addressed in post mortem meetings scheduled by Mr. Stoertz in the near future. [REDACTED] outlined a proposal for refining work on Soviet strategic objectives by using a working group to define key questions, to arrange them in priority order, to delineate the need for further collection and analysis, and to manage departmental analytic efforts.

Following Board discussion, the Acting Chairman noted the need for direct NFIB involvement in and continuing overview of the estimative production process, beginning with the terms of reference. The Acting Chairman suggested that the Board follow vigorously the progress of [REDACTED] working group and that every 60-90 days the Board discuss the evidence the group had accumulated to support the various points of view on Soviet strategic objectives. To begin this process, the Acting Chairman directed that [REDACTED] present to the Board at its next meeting specific proposals for implementing the program.

There was an executive session.

The meeting adjourned at 1200 hours.

[REDACTED]  
Walter Elder

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